

Friday

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Chairman: Gentlemen, sorry to say that Mr. Sugrim Singh is very ill as he is suffering from serious ^{over-} strain, but ~~we will continue~~ the inquiry. *Continue.*

Mr. Carter: May I request this morning that we have one Dr. Roza and I hope his ~~evidence~~ would be taken so that he can travel back to Mc Kenzie this afternoon. *Dr. C. F. Roza duly sworn states*

CHAIRMAN: You are a medical practitioner attached to the Mc Kenzie hospital.

Dr. Roza: Yes.

CHAIRMAN: You were in attendance at the Hospital on the 25th day of May, 1964.

Dr. Roza: I was. On that day there were several persons admitted from the Wismar and Christianburg Area.

CHAIRMAN: As a result can you say how many persons suffered injuries.

Dr. Roza: Yes. On that day I treated 33 persons who were admitted to the hospital.

CHAIRMAN: You have a record of the injuries of the persons that were injured. Can this record be made available to the Commission?

Dr. Roza: I could. I have to make another copy.

CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen you can have a look.

Dr. Roza: Actually there were admissions before the 25th May, On the 22nd May some were admitted. This is recorded.

CHAIRMAN: Can you say what happened on the 22nd 24th and 25th May.

Dr. Roza: On the 22nd three persons were admitted, on the 23rd no one went in, on the 24th two persons were admitted, and on the 25th the bulk went in. On the 26th three persons were admitted, on the 27th one person was admitted. These were all that were admitted.

CHAIRMAN: Gentleman have a look at this document. (Document tendered admitted without objection and marked Exhibit "G") Doctor do you have any record of the injuries suffered on the 6th and 7th day of July, 1964.?

DR. ROZA: I was not in the colony at that time, there was another doctor in charge of the hospital at that time.

CHAIRMAN: There is another document here narrating the incidents from July 6th. I do not know if Mr. Shepherd would ^{and} have any objection to this document. Any objection to it Mr. Shepherd?

/Mr. Shepherd...

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MR. SHEPHERD: No Sir.

MR. FARNUM: Would this be a proper time to inform the Commission that I am appearing for the army as indicated to the secretary to the commission and Mr. Shepherd has made an appearance for me. It seems unlikely that any evidence affecting my client will be laid for some days yet, so in the circumstances I will ask the commission to excuse me I shall return later, some time next week as the proceedings require. If you will excuse me now I will be most grateful.

CHAIRMAN: Yes Mr. Farnum.

MR. SHEPHERD: No objection at all.

CHAIRMAN: Any objections Mr. Carter?

MR. CARTER: I have no Objections.

CHAIRMAN: *You are accused Mr. Farnum.* We have to have time to read this statement, it is a rather lengthy one. Can you say if it contains any other statement concerning the people who were treated at the hospital? *Say after the Sun Chapt incident*

DR. ROZA: I was not in British Guiana at the time.

CHAIRMAN: The first incident?

DR. ROZA: It was on the May 25th. On May 25th there were people treated sent away in addition to the 33 admitted on the 25th.

CHAIRMAN: How many?

DR. ROZA: It was very difficult to get the exact number, but at the hospital itself we estimated it was 15, but the St. John Brigade worked in two areas, both at McKenzie and Wismar. *were treated*

CHAIRMAN: And how many at the First Aid Centre at McKenzie?

DR. ROZA: The one at Wismar did not function until Tuesday 26th, because we had ~~an old~~ *no* building there, so we utilised the Wismar Police Station. We had to wait until 6 o'clock on Tuesday morning, when the Wismar First Aid Centre got underway.

DR. DRAYTON: *Chairman* So only 15 people were actually treated and sent away from the hospital.

CHAIRMAN: *You* You would like copies of both documents *to be taken*

DR. ROZA: Yes, I haven't got a copy for myself.

CHAIRMAN: Yes Mr. Shepherd?

MR. SHEPHERD: There are just a few questions to make your position

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Doctor?

MR. ROZA: I am one of the only ones.

MR. SHEPHERD: You are the one in charge of the hospital, and you had other doctors to help you?

DR. ROZA: Yes, two other doctors.

MR. SHEPHERD: I suppose you worked 24 hours a day on the 25th of May?

DR. ROZA: Just about.

MR. SHEPHERD: And all your hospital facilities were made available for the evacuees from Christianburg? And on the 24th and 26th of May did you ~~have~~ ^{have} any of the evacuees, ^{except badly} but the injured people.

~~CHAIRMAN:~~ And I suppose the continuous flow out of the hospital of injured people was great.

~~MR. SHEPHERD:~~ And exhibit G is a casualty list applying to the 25th 26th of May only?

DR. ROZA: It dates back to the 22nd.

MR. SHEPHERD: It dates back to the 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 26th, and 27th, but it refers only to those admitted and kept in the hospital, not to those who may have been treated and discharged.

DR. ROZA: That's correct.

MR. SHEPHERD: You Doctor, lived on the McKenzie side of the river on staff quarters, and your hospital facilities are there primarily for company employees who need treatment and their relatives.

MR. SHEPHERD: ~~The hospital their relatives was primarily for the companies' employees and other relatives.~~

DR. ROZA: Primarily it is used as a public hospital.

MR. SHEPHERD: As far as I can judge ^{as} you are a doctor and a resident of MacKenzie city. Was the situation about normal in the Wismar community. ^{before 24th?}

DR. ROZA: Well I would say there was ~~a~~ tension.

MR. SHEPHERD: Was the whole area gripped by this tension?

DR. ROZA: Just at Wismar.

MR. SHEPHERD: However looking upon your point of view, until the 22nd May, it did not effect your work.

DR. ROZA: A bit.

/ Mr. Shepherd ..

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MR. SHEPHERD: During this week-end of 24th and 25th May you had occasion to talk and no doubt examine some of these casualties. Did you personally treat some of these casualties?

DR. ROZA: Most of them.

MR. SHEPHERD: You treated most of them yourself.

MR. ROZA: Some of ~~them~~ were women, about 35, and about 4 of them were suffering from concussion and were heavily raped.

MR. SHEPHERD: Were they treated and sent home after their injuries?

DR. ROZA: Within hours.

MR. SHEPHERD: Did any of these women at any time complained personally to you ~~about~~ *the police or Volunteers*

DR. ROZA: Never, ~~any~~ *not one.* one of them.

MR. SHEPHERD: Did you mention in your verbal statement about the work of the St. John Ambulance?

DR. ROZA: Yes.

MR. SHEPHERD: Would you explain how its forces were ~~regarded~~ *disposed* through this period ~~of~~ *from* 25th and ~~ended~~ up to the 6th July. The reason for that is that you realized the situation was tense ~~and~~ *serious* and required a number of casualties coming in. You requested your forces to stand by at the clinic. The MacKenzie clinic ~~is on the right bank of~~ *is on the right bank of* ~~going towards the North right~~ *the river.* on the point.

DR. ROZA: Yes. nearest to Wismar.

MR. SHEPHERD: What is the name of your ~~medical~~ *who worked* officer? ~~the clinic at wismar.~~

DR. ROZA: Albert McGrae.

MR. SHEPHERD: Would you have now how many casualties you have treated?

DR. ROZA: I have not a record of the number treated at the time here with me, but I have a record of the number treated on the MacKenzie side ~~treated~~ by the St. John's Ambulance Brigade.

MR. SHEPHERD: How many approximately were treated on the ~~MacKenzie~~ *Wismar* side.

DR. ROZA: About 18 I went over there to carry food and refreshments.

MR. SHEPHERD: I cannot recollect having seen any station at Wismar.

Would you explain how the establishment in Wismar was built?

DR. ROZA: I would rather say it was seven feet by eight and the floor was actually earth., and when it was clear I went to the police to ask him

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him if I could use the station. The police agreed.

MR. SHEPHERD: Now this lengthy report which is not your report but that of Dr. Davis ~~is~~ Webb. By that time you had left the country.

MR. ROZA: I left British Guiana on ~~the~~ ⁴ 20th June.

MR. SHEPHERD: About a month after these terrible affairs, you had left the country, on the 20th June. You have read this report by

Dr. Davis ^{with} ~~is~~ was he also a Doctor. ^{Medical}

DR. ROZA: He is also a Doctor. ^{Medical}

MR. SHEPHERD. You have read this report.

DR. ROZA: I have.

MR. SHEPHERD: This has been admitted quite rightly and no ^{objection} opportunity have been taken. I notice there have been one or two expressions of opinion by Dr. Davis ~~is~~. We hope one of matters of opinion to which he had referred, may have also come to your notice. He referred to some incident as a reprisal.

MR. ROZA: Yes he does.

MR. SHEPHERD: When did you return to British Guiana. You ^{left} went on the 20th June.

DR. ROZA: I returned on the 29th July.

MR. SHEPHERD: Would you be able to assist the tribunal and to say whether you agree with Dr. Davis ~~is~~. Well are you in a position to agree or disagree.

DR. ROZA: Well I don't know if it is the reprisal that has been suggested.

MR. SHEPHERD: Another matter of opinion to which I think you ^{to which} ~~might~~ have ^{might have been drawn} drawn attention, as I am still holding on for Mr. Farnum, ~~is~~ ^{Reference} to the British forces, were the British forces on duty when you returned?

Mr. Roza. Yes they were.

MR. SHEPHERD: And of course they had assumed duty on the night of Tuesday 26th.

DR. ROZA. No. They were there on Monday 25th.

MR. SHEPHERD: Do you agree with what the Dr. has said that the British troops did much to allay apprehension.

DR. ROZA: Yes I do.

MR. SHEPHERD: And that the presence of British Troops did much much to

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to keep the situation under control.

DR. ROZA. True.

MR. SHEPHERD: Could you say how many people died as a result of the disturbances.

MR. ROZA: There were a total of five deaths. Two persons died in hospital and three others were brought to the hospital dead.

MR. SHEPHERD: Were they all adults?

DR. ROZA: All adults.

MR. SHEPHERD: Were there any women among them?

DR. ROZA: No, there were no women and no children.

MR. SHEPHERD: So there were no women and no children.

DR. ROZA: NO women and no children.

MR. SHEPHERD: Were any children injured. ^{Can you} You can assume that a child was beaten or cut or something like that. ^{Did you see that child.}

DR. ROZA: Well, there were two children of the age of 12 who had minor bruises and punctured ^{wounds} wounds about the legs. The one child I referred to of the age of 12 was admitted on the night of the 22nd and she had pellets in her legs. One boy had face injuries and sclap wounds caused by a fall.

MR. SHEPHERD. It seems ^{more} more to you like a fall?

DR. ROZA: Yes. And there was another boy of the age ^{of} 14, and he had bruises on the face just as if he had fallen on the ground.

MR. SHEPHERD: Did he tell you that he had been beaten.

DR. ROZA: No. Well the parent could not be found. They did not tell me that they ^{had} have been beaten. And perhaps to answer this further,

we had two evacuations, two centers for refugees from Wismar. One was ^{at} the trade school and ^{the other} one at the sports club. Among the crowd were several children. Infants and ^{boys} on that night. I made rounds to both centres along with a nurse, and there was'nt any evidence of any child injured. There were a number of minor scratches and so on. ^{any} The medical ^{aid} rendered some assistance with some ^{medicines} mulcurochrome. There was no evidence of any children being beaten. No reports were made ^{to} them.

MR. SHEPHERD: Mrs. Mohamed said that her baby had been squeezed at her evidence yesterday ^{was there any report of this sort} ^{to this effect}

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DR. ROZA: No none at all.

MR. SHEPHERD: Were you ^{were} wearing your medical uniform.

DR. ROZA: Yes all the time.

MR. CARTER: Do you think people know you well.

DR. ROZA: Yes.

MR. CARTER: You were there 11 to 14 years, so you were well known as a Dr.

DR. ROZA: Yes.

MR. CARTER: So that making an assessment do you think that children ^{there} were ~~there~~ ^{not beaten}.

DR. ROZA: Yes. No.

MR. CARTER: Now I am finding some difficulty in framing this question, as to ^{to recall} ~~their~~ I shall use the precise words. There were four cases of rape! Was there any evidence of external objects being used!

DR. ROZA: There were four cases. There were ^{two} young girls ten to sixteen years old bleeding rather profusely. A girl was extremely shocked, while some just collapsed but if you meant about external insertion, I will say no.

MR. CARTER: There were so many rumours, do you have any evidence of the introduction of inanimate objects in ^{this} way.

DR. ROZA: No: actually when the admissions were made I did not see or

hear immediately, not swear ^{you} to the person ^{ask} of any inanimate object ^{being} used.

MR. CARTER: Now with regard to St. John's Brigade, how strong was this force, it is roughly how many ^{the} ten or 15, that night.

DR. ROZA: I would say about eighteen to twenty four.

MR. CARTER: What were the racial origins of those people, were all Africans?

DR. ROZA: Yes they were all Africans.

CHAIRMAN: This man ^{McGee} ~~Grace~~, is he an African?

DR. ROZA: Yes.

CHAIRMAN: And he phoned you that he was arranging this. ^{Q. u. e. at the time}

DR. ROZA: He rang me that the situation at Wismar was very tense, so

I gave permission to go ahead.

CHAIRMAN: Did you see fire at Wismar?

/ Dr. ROZA: ..

DR. ROZA: I saw a man running up the hill on that side of Wismar, then later I saw fire. I rang notifying the setting up of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade at Wismar. The Volunteer force in charge assumed control, and the military was going around looking for evacuees and ~~bring~~ ^{carry} them to the police station. There they were served drinks and beds prepared for them to rest on and things like that.

CHAIRMAN: All of these persons were employees. *gelli Derr Bannin*

DR. ROZA: The majority were girls who were not working, they were relatives of the employees.

MRS. MOOTOO: Dr. Roza, among the people who died at the hospital, were ^{was} there an eighteen year old boy by the name of Richard Khan?

DR. ROZA: Yes he was among the first casualties, I went and received him myself.

WITNESS: *At Antio Belgrave duly sworn Stiles*
Sworn.

CHAIRMAN: What is your occupation?

MR. BELGRAVE: *& Trinidad*
assistant secretary of the British Guiana Fire Insurance Company.

CHAIRMAN: Does the Company insure people's lives and houses?

WITNESS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN: Do you have a record at the Company as to the number of houses and people's lives insured on the 25th May from the Wismar/McKenzie area.

WITNESS: No, all I have here is the list of the buildings that were insured and destroyed by the disturbances.

CHAIRMAN: *Witness*
Could you say how it is set out. Not specifically set out, but I could give you the total amount.

Claim
MR. SHEPHERD: What would you say the amount of the claims were?

Notes
CHAIRMAN: as a result of the disturbances we have claims ~~to~~ totalling \$335,933.00.

Claim
MR. SHEPHERD: Do you have the figures of the ~~buildings~~ ^{of the buildings} value? *building*

WITNESS: Yes. Buildings \$253,393, stocks \$78,000, machinery \$600, furniture and other household items \$940, that makes the total of \$335,933. There were no life claims ~~as a result~~ ^{as a result} of the disturbances.

CHAIRMAN: Was any amount paid out?

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CHAIRMAN: Could you say ^{well} in general the insurance for buildings and stock approximated to the market value?

WITNESS: The only answer I can give to you, ^{is} that ~~at~~ the time the policy was taken out the value was there.

RV. MC DONALD: You checked very carefully when the policy was taken out? ^{witness you}

WITNESS: ^{Rev. H. D. D. did the insurance include riot.} The insurance did not include riot.

DR. DRAYTON: ^{Has} any of it ~~is~~ had been paid?

WITNESS: No.

DR. DRAYTON: Would it have be ~~un~~usual for people to take out less insurance than the value of their property?

WITNESS: Unfortunatley they do, particularly with a concrete structure.

DR. DRAYTON: So far as you know as regards the properties insured with your Company, you would be in a position to ask for the value that they were insured for at that time by representatives of your Company.

WITNESS: That is the policy of my Company. We advise them to insure to the value of their property, for example, a man may have a property insured for \$2,500. ^{only} Being ^{designated} the amount ^{may} owned on it, say the mortgage. If a property is insured you will not have the actual worth.

DR. DRAYTON: It would be assumed the actual value as compared with what they were insured for would have some relation and ^{that} you would be in a position to state the market value.

WITNESS: No not necessarily.

DR. DRAYTON: But at the time of the insurance they must have been seen by the representative of the Company of yours. Your policy for this matter is the same.

WITNESS: They are advised to insure by the company to the full value but that advice has not been taken.

CHAIRMAN: But if a property is not insured, would you be able to say how much you think the property is actually worth?

WITNESS: No.

MRS. MOOTOO: What percentage of houses in Wismar do you think ^{was} ~~what~~ destroyed.

WITNESS: ...

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WITNESS: I cannot answer that.

MRS. MOOTOO: But most of these business places were insured?

WITNESS: I would not say so.

MRS. MOOTOO: Private homes?

WITNESS: Yes private homes.

MRS. MOOTOO: Is it customary for people to insure their jewellery?

WITNESS: I would say no. Some persons do not like to insure jewellery but there are others who like to insure jewellery. There are ~~of the~~ companies, ~~we~~ do not do it.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you, you can be relieved.

WITNESS: Thank you.

at this stage. the witness was recalled.

CHAIRMAN: Sorry we had to send for you but the commissioners feel that they would like to have a statement on the ~~amount~~ ^{individual} of houses that were destroyed, the amount insured for and the market value at time of insurance.

WITNESS: I was just wondering ^{whether} would it be alright for me to give a statement in regard by individuals as this might be regarded as ^{not} be in order for us ^{if I can} to omit names I can give ^{individual} some amounts perhaps.

CHAIRMAN: ^{Suppose} Names please ^{to the Commission}.

Tribunalman Personal details from State as follows.

CHAIRMAN: You are a business man?

WITNESS: I was Sir.

CHAIRMAN: Where do you live now?

WITNESS: I live at lot 61 Public Road Kitty.

CHAIRMAN: What work do you do now?

WITNESS: No work at all Sir.

CHAIRMAN: You are not working? You used to be a business man?

WITNESS: Yes Sir.

CHAIRMAN: and you lived at 145 Silvertown Wismar, with your family. your wife and five children a grand child and an adopted son.

WITNESS: Yes Sir.

CHAIRMAN: Now you owned a two storey concrete and wooden building.

WITNESS: Yes Sir.

CHAIRMAN: what business you carried on there.

/ WITNESS

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WITNESS: It was a spirit shop, grocery, and drug store.

CHAIRMAN: You lived in the upper flat.

WITNESS: Yes Sir. The business premises were in the lower flat.

CHAIRMAN: You had the business in the lower flat.

WITNESS: Yes Sir.

CHAIRMAN: You owned any other property.

WITNESS: Yes Sir. One at lot 14 Silver City Wismar.

CHAIRMAN: You owned a two storey wooden building. That was tenanted.

WITNESS: Yes sir. A barber shop is carried on there, ^{also what I call} ~~I won't call~~

~~it~~ a cook shop.

CHAIRMAN: You had a restaurant.

WITNESS: Yes, something like that. ^{I rented it out}

~~CHAIRMAN: Now, sir I rented it out.~~

^{So you rented it out}
CHAIRMAN: Now, on Monday 25th May you got up about what o'clock.

WITNESS: We usually awake about 5.30 a.m. to get ready for business at 7 a.m.

CHAIRMAN: And what happened at Wismar. ?

WITNESS: We opened business as usual that morning but as it got a little late the place began to get crowded. And there were fires all around, and ^{we} heard explosions.

CHAIRMAN: This started about what time?

WITNESS: Well, it was going on during the night. I could have seen smoke and fire all around.

CHAIRMAN: You slept all right the night.

WITNESS: Yes, I slept all right.

CHAIRMAN: You had no trouble.

WITNESS: No sir.

CHAIRMAN: You did not keep watch or anything on the premises.

WITNESS: No I did not keep watch.

CHAIRMAN: You felt safe the night before.

WITNESS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN: You said you heard explosions about what time. ?

WITNESS: Well the explosions ^{was} during the night and day as I said

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they continued during the night.

CHAIRMAN: You said you slept, and you had no cause to keep watch and the explosions were going on throughout the night. You also saw people moving about.

WITNESS: Yes sir.

CHAIRMAN: Did you do, or say anything.

WITNESS: Well around 9 or 10, we closed the shop.

CHAIRMAN: Why did you close the shop.

WITNESS: Because we were afraid.

CHAIRMAN: and ^{was} were your family at home. ?

WITNESS: Yes, there were upstairs.

CHAIRMAN: And anything happened. ?

WITNESS: Yes, later in the day.

CHAIRMAN: How late.

WITNESS: It was about 4 or 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

CHAIRMAN: What happened.

WITNESS: We saw people walking with looting goods., then we noticed about three or four hundred people away from my house.

CHAIRMAN: How far away they were from your house. ?

WITNESS: That was about 50 rods from my home.

CHAIRMAN: What happened next?

WITNESS: There were three Volunteer soldiers in front of my place. They gave me hope that they might be able to prevent people from coming to us.

CHAIRMAN: You felt that they might prevent the crowd coming to you. What happened next?

WITNESS: I heard a report from one of the Volunteers firing a gun.

CHAIRMAN: You heard a report from someone firing a gun,

WITNESS: Yes sir.

CHAIRMAN: What happened next.

WITNESS: After that, the crowd began to come my way.

CHAIRMAN: The crowd continued in your direction.

/ WITNESS: ...

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WITNESS: Yes, they were coming in my direction.

CHAIRMAN: What happened next?

WITNESS: The Volunteers disappeared.

CHAIRMAN: What do you mean they disappeared. They went away?

WITNESS: Yes. As they disappeared I didn't see them any more.

One fellow, said "man you give us what we want and we will not trouble you. So, I asked what he wanted, and he said he wanted \$500. I told him, I have'nt got any money.

CHAIRMAN: Did you recognise anybody in that crowd?

WITNESS: Yes, I know some of them as I saw them.

CHAIRMAN: Were they strangers to Wismar area, or people you know by name or face.

WITNESS: Some I know by face, and some by name.

CHAIRMAN: Do you remember the names.

WITNESS: A few of them, Sir.

CHAIRMAN: What are their names?

WITNESS: Their names were Patrick Long, his wife there was a fellow by the name of Cheddie.

CHAIRMAN: Anybody else.

WITNESS: No sir, but I saw a fellow by the name of German, I also saw Devon and Caesar.

CHAIRMAN: Were there ~~ladies~~ ^{women} in the crowd?

WITNESS: No.

CHAIRMAN: Whom did you see.

WITNESS: I saw a man by the name of Banga Mary. I then heard noise like some one breaking a show case.

CHAIRMAN: What happened then?

WITNESS: During that period they came by my shop and started to break my window, then they came in and demanded ~~my~~ money from us.

CHAIRMAN: What you did?

WITNESS: They threaten us, then suddenly another person came into the house with a cut-lass. They took articles from the house as much as they could get. They took away things like clock, cameras, money and jewels.

CHAIRMAN:

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CHAIRMAN: How much money?

WITNESS: About \$350, they stripped my wife and children of their jewels, such as bangles, wrist-watches. *etc.*

CHAIRMAN: They took it from their purses, *person.*

WITNESS: Yes sir.

CHAIRMAN: What happened next.

WITNESS: The crowd went away, then a man came in and said if you give me \$5 I will leave you. I then ~~gave~~ ^{gave} him all I had that is ~~\$20~~ ^{a note} \$20. Then I began to smell funny things, I saw smoke and I told my wife and family about it, and as my wife looked around the man said we would be roasted in here, because the smoke was coming through the windows. I then told my wife and children let us escape, so we ran at the back step of the building. ~~There~~ ^{There} I saw a fellow with a liquid in a bottle which was transparent. The man pelted the bottle of liquid which was broken, and a fire started. The crowd down stairs told us that if we go and hide ourselves in that toilet they would not burn the house, they would out the fire. I then ran in my Neighbour's toilet.

CHAIRMAN: Who was your neighbour.

WITNESS: Mr. Clark. After running and hiding in that toilet, I did not see my children, so I came out and ~~observed my missing daughter~~ ^{observed my missing daughter} and my daughter-in-law, ~~we~~ ^{my adopted son} ~~went~~ ^{my last son, a friend, we} went in search of them.

CHAIRMAN: What are their names.

WITNESS: Their names are Kawal ~~Persaud~~ ^{Persaud}, Balmacoon ~~Persaud~~ ^{Persaud} and Kenneth Ramchand.

CHAIRMAN: ^{Yes} My sons went in search of the girls, that means your daughter, your daughter-in-law, and also your ~~children~~ ^{and other children}. How old are they?

WITNESS: My daughter is 21, my daughter-in-law also 21, and other children 12 to 14.

CHAIRMAN: You said that you escaped from the toilet, and went in the back street in search of your family.

WITNESS: Yes.

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CHAIRMAN: Then what happened.?

WITNESS: I told the boys that I am going to Silver City house where I would spend the night.

CHAIRMAN: You said you escaped from the latrine. Where did you go!?

WITNESS: I went to the back street. Then I said that I would go to Silver City where I have another property, but when I reached the premises I found that the buildings was on fire. I went to the ^{Wison} Christianburgh Police Station and made a report to Mr. Hobbs.

CHAIRMAN: Did you ^{make} take a statement?

WITNESS: ^{Yes} He referred me to an Indian Police Constable who took a statement from me.

CHAIRMAN: What time was it?

WITNESS: It was about dusk.

CHAIRMAN: What happened then?

WITNESS: I saw ^{a few of my} ~~my~~ children ~~a few other~~ at the Police Station.

CHAIRMAN: What did you do?

WITNESS: We were transferred to the Demba Trade School.

CHAIRMAN: Did you see your girls?

WITNESS: I did not see my girls, my daughter-in-law, and my eldest son.

CHAIRMAN: Did you go to the Demba Trade School?

WITNESS: I first went to the Casualty, and then to the Demba Trade School.

CHAIRMAN: Did you spend the night there?

WITNESS: Yes sir and then I joined the boat from ^{Mackenzie} Christianburgh to ^{at} Georgetown, where I saw my two girls on ~~A~~ stretchers and my children were in the boat.

CHAIRMAN: What about your son?

WITNESS: He had bumps, bruises but he could have walked.

CHAIRMAN: What was your loss?

WITNESS: At that time the shock had me, and I told the Police that I lost around \$98,000.00 to \$100,000. dollars.

CHAIRMAN: Did you give any statement to the Police at Brickdam

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Police Station.

WITNESS: Yes. I gave the statement.

CHAIRMAN: Was it on the 27th day of May.

WITNESS: Yes sir, it was on Wednesday the 27th day of May.

MR. SHEPHERD: How many Volunteers you saw when your house was on fire?

WITNESS: Three.

MR. SHEPHERD: You heard them open fire on the crowd. ?

WITNESS: One shot in the air.

MR. SHEPHERD: Then you didn't see them again after that.

WITNESS: NO.

MR. SHEPHERD: I have no instructions about this evidence, and I shall however ~~cross-examine~~ examine the witnesses again.. No instructions have been received in relation to this evidence and as mentioned before the absence of this statement from the witness would ~~result in~~ ^{add to} the delay.

CHAIRMAN: I understand that the witness has already given a statement to the police.

MR. SHEPHERD: If I can have ^{that} statement, I could have saved all of this, so far as I am able, I would proceed examining the witness and finish with. I am going to ask for the ^{his} ~~result~~ ^{recall} of this witness; up to now I would require the recall of two, he will be ^{the} ~~a~~ third. From my point of view, I shall call back Shirely Mohamed and Mrs Goopie to the stand, because they gave some startling statements about the police.

CHAIRMAN: You have the statement from this witness. He gave you since the 5th June 1964.

MR. SHEPHERD: About the volunteers, I have seen the statement from the police. Now did you reconize any of the people in front of your shop?

WITNESS: I spoke to one Patrick Lounge, Compton Lounge, H Vanderstoop, and George Dunlap.

MR. SHEPHERD : Did you see Dunlap?

WITNESS : No I did not see Dunlap.

CHAIRMAN : You saw him and you mentioned this to the police, the police took your statement.

MR SHEPHERD : And isn't it a fact that these men are charged by the police and are awaiting trial.

WITNESS : I have seen a few of them.

CHAIRMAN : This report of the gun? Now you did not see anyone firing a gun?

WITNESS : I heard the report and when I turned I saw smoke from the muzzle of the gun.

MRS MOOTOO : Was your relationship with your neighbours good?

WITNESS : Very nice.

MRS MOOTOO : Did you have any enemies?

WITNESS : Not that I know of.
Did the amount you stated include.

MRS. MOOTOO : So ~~this amount~~ included what you owed the merchant?

WITNESS : Yes.

CHAIRMAN : How much ^{would} do you say you owed.

WITNESS : With the bank, I have \$3,000 overdraft.

CHAIRMAN : Are there any merchandise for which payment has to be made?

WITNESS : ^{we use} I don't believe I owe \$7,000.

PROF. DRAYTON : You said that you heard explosions on the Sunday night. How early was it, 9 o'clock or 10?

WITNESS : We never checked on the time.

PROF. DRAYTON : The explosion was before you went to bed, right through the night?

WITNESS : During sleep I heard an explosion, but in the morning there were explosions all the time.

PROF DRAYTON : During sleep you heard an explosion and jumped up? Secondly, was it only your wife and yourself who were hiding in the latrine?

WITNESS : My wife and I alone.

PROF. DRAYTON : What happened to your children after you came out of hiding?

WITNESS : I looked for them.

PROF. DRAYTON : You looked where?

WITNESS : In the backstreet.

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PROF. DRAYTON : Where did you intend to go?

WITNESS: We were hustling to catch Silver City.

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Prashad, I may have to call you back to give further evidence. You live at 61 Public Road Kitty. We will get in touch with you.

MR. SHEPHERD: Do you know any names of the volunteers?

WITNESS: No sir, I do not know the names.

Mr. Khan being sworn and states as follows:

CHAIRMAN: Where do you live?

WITNESS: Lot 5 Ruimveldt Riverview.

CHAIRMAN: What work are you doing?

WITNESS : I am a barber.

Chairman : You used to live at lot 14 Silver City, Wismar, and what work did you do there?

Witness : I had a restaurant at Lot 14 Silver City, Wismar, and a Boarding house.

CHAIRMAN : You were also a barber? Now in the month of May this year, about the 23rd which was a Saturday, what happened?

WITNESS : I went to Sootan's rumshop about 7.30 in the night. I saw Robert Jordan with a group of men and women, about fifty to sixty, telling them if they were not seeing or reading the newspapers. On the West Coast and East Coast the Indians were killing out the negroes, What are you negroes doing here, try and do the same thing. Do you see what the Indians are doing to the negroes? Burn the house and kill them if possible, you have sufficient lawyers to defend you, aren't you not seeing that the lawyers are defending all the cases?

CHAIRMAN: Now what happened on Sunday 24th?

WITNESS : I went home on Sunday 24th. About 6.30 in the morning I opened my restaurant and I was ordered by a group of men and women to close the restaurant. I closed it because I was afraid. After I closed the restaurant I went to the Barber shop at Mr Lalta Paul's building, they ordered me there again, to close the shop. I closed and I went home at Lot 14 the address of the same restaurant to keep indoors for the whole day, myself, my wife and children.

CHAIRMAN : Why did you keep indoors?

WITNESS : I was ordered by the men and women not to open, because they said they were going to burn down the place. The next day on the 25th, about four o'clock in the afternoon I saw they were looting the second lot from me, and some of the boys ran to me and said to remove quickly, or they would beat me.

CHAIRMAN : Who told you to remove? Were they Indian?

WITNESS : No, they were not Indians. I had to get my wife and children to the Police station.

CHAIRMAN : Do you know the place?

WITNESS : It was a negroe's place, but an Indian man was working there.

CHAIRMAN : Was that building burnt?

WITNESS : No.

CHAIRMAN : You say you went home, and yourself and your family went to the police station? Your wife had eight children? How far were you from the Police station?

WITNESS : 50 rods.

CHAIRMAN : On your way to the Police Station did anything occur?

WITNESS : A negro fellow ran behind my wife and told her to take off her bangles or he would stab her in her back. I had a cutlass in my hand, and I asked him if he put the bangles there, and after he saw the cutlass he jumped across Mr Paul's place and ran away.

CHAIRMAN : You got to the Police Station during the day, did you request the police to assist you?

WITNESS : When I went to the Police Station I went to Superintendent Hobbs and asked him for a police to follow me home to get some jewels that were under my mattress, and a machine. If I could even get that out I would be grateful, but I was not assisted with that.

CHAIRMAN : You got to the Police Station at what time?

WITNESS : About 4.30 p.m.

CHAIRMAN : How long did you stay there?

WITNESS : Until 8 o'clock in the night.

CHAIRMAN : How many people were in the Police Compound?

WITNESS : About 1,000 people.

CHAIRMAN : How much would you say you lost?

WITNESS : About \$ 10,000.

CHAIRMAN : That includes this barbershop, and the restuarant, which

was rented from Prashad. Are you indebted?

WITNESS: No I am not indebted.

CHAIRMAN: Was the insurance paid? You are I believe insured?

WITNESS: Yes, I am insured for \$5,000.

CHAIRMAN: You didn't receive any payment there?

WITNESS: No.

CHAIRMAN: The next morning you joined the boat.

WITNESS: Yes on Tuesday morning to come to Georgetown.

MR. SHEPHERD: Now Mr Khan you heard Mr. R. Jordan talking to this crowd. Were there any members of the police force ^{مبار} at the time?

WITNESS: No sir.

MR. SHEPHERD: Were you alone when you heard Mr Jordan addressing the crowd or were you with any friend?

WITNESS: No other friend.

MR. SHEPHERD: What did you do. Did you go to any of the friends who are Indians who have businesses or others who are just living at Wismar to report what you heard.

WITNESS: I talked to Mr Paul and his son, I spoke to them about what Mr. Jordan was saying.

MR. SHEPHERD: So that when the attack came on the 25th you were not completely taken by surprise.

WITNESS: According to how I heard it, I didn't expect what would happen.

MR. SHEPHERD: Before Mr Jordan's meeting with this crowd, had there been any similar statements made in public at Wismar?

WITNESS: I cannot remember. This was the only time. I heard several times about this but I did not hear it with my ears, this was the first time I heard it.

Rev. Mc Donald
MR. SHEPHERD: Mr. Khan you said you saw Mr. Jordan standing in front of a shop. Was he right on the water side.

WITNESS: Yes sir.

REV. MC. DONALD: Well, we have seen public meetings organized by political parties. Was it set up in this way. Was Mr. Jordan standing on something addressing the people?

WITNESS: No sir. There were 50 to 60 people standing around Mr Jordan he was in the middle of the crowd, addressing the people, and he wasn't

speaking easy. ✓

REV.MCDONALD : Did you see any other Indian around?

WITNESS: No other Indian was ^{there} there.

MRS. MOOTOO : Did they object to you listening to the talk?

WITNESS: No sir.

MRS. MOOTOO : Did they see you.

WITNESS : Everybody was watching me.

MRS. MOOTOO : Who is Soo Tang?

WITNESS: A Chinese man.

MRS MOOTOO : Was Mr. Soo Tang there?

WITNESS: Well, he was in the shop.

MRS. MOOTOO : Did you recognize anybody in the crowd?

WITNESS : Well, I reconized everybody. '

MRS. MOOTOO : They did not object to you listening so it was not a secret meeting.-

WITNESS: No, it was not a secret meeting.

MRS. MOOTOO : He was not giving instructions.

WITNESS : I was at the back and I walked around the rum shop.

MRS. MOOTOO: Did they see you?

WITNESS : I cannot say if they saw me.

MRS. MOOTOO : How long do you know Mr. Jordan.

WITNESS : I worked for Mr Jordan.

CHAIRMAN : Mr Jordan is the elected member for the Wismar area in the Legislative assembly.

WITNESS : Yes.

Walter Narain being ^{duly} sworn and states as follows:

CHAIRMAN : Mr. W. Narain where are you living?

WITNESS : I live at Plantation Enmore.

CHAIRMAN : What work are you doing ?

WITNESS : Nothing, I am unemployed.

CHAIRMAN : You use to live where? Before you went to ^{Enmore.} Wismar.

WITNESS : I use to live at 248 Silver Town Wismar, and I use to work at Demba, as a Bulldozer operator. O worked among all the boys in the mine. I use to hear one or two of them talk threateningly. A few days after people came to my place up the river.

CHAIRMAN : You had another place.

WITNESS : No sir. Some of them told us that we would have to run to their place up the river for rescue. Threats were made by the workers to me. I told them if they want to beat me they could beat me.

CHAIRMAN : Anything happened before Friday?

WITNESS : Friday afternoon when I came home from work, I met my wife sick, so I had to go to the drugstore to see a doctor. The doctor said that I must bring her to him, but the condition of the area prevented me.

CHAIRMAN : You said that you went for a dispenser.

WITNESS : Yes sir, and he told me to bring my wife he wanted to see her. The place was rather disturbed and several persons were running and making threatening remarks.

CHAIRMAN : You said you saw Jordon and you heard him ~~said so~~, it was about what time? *Say桑迪.*

WITNESS : It was about 4.30.

CHAIRMAN : Where was he?

WITNESS : He was at Wismar Road walking. I saw him just past the market by the boat landing.

CHAIRMAN : The boat landing is about how far from the market?

WITNESS : About 25 rods.

CHAIRMAN : And what you did?

WITNESS : By hearing and seeing these things I did not carry her to the hospital, but I went and bought some tablets from the drugstore and I gave them to her.

CHAIRMAN : Did she feel any relief after taking these tablets?

WITNESS : No, I sent to call a man by the name of Napoleon, than I took her across to Mackenzie hospital.

CHAIRMAN : About what o'clock?

WITNESS : About 5 to 6 o'clock. I went home and my wife and children kept watching all night.

CHAIRMAN : How many children?

WITNESS : I have seven children.

CHAIRMAN : And that house was your own.

WITNESS : Yes sir, About 10 o'clock as I was watching my home I heard the explosion of a bomb by the riverside and then in my home.

CHAIRMAN : Was anybody injured?

WITNESS : No body was injured, but a portion of the house was scorched.

Shortly after, two policemen came to my house and asked me if the bomb had exploded in my home, and I said yes. They then took the bomb and carried it to the station. Then a boy came, he was a negroe boy wearing black clothes. I turned on my light. The boy after seeing this went away. A few minutes later I saw Mr Hobbs and four other policemen. They came and spoke with me. I asked them if they are going to leave me alone, but they said that that there are no policemen available, because they are all on duty. He asked me if I had a gun, I told him no, and I asked him if I could have one from him and the reply was no.

CHAIRMAN : That was on Friday.

WITNESS : Yes sir.

CHAIRMAN: What happened on Saturday did you go back to work?

WITNESS : No I stayed at home.

CHAIRMAN: Nothing happened to you?

WITNESS : No sir.

CHAIRMAN: What happened on Sunday?

WITNESS : On Sunday I saw a fire, and I heard explosion of bombs. I saw volunteers and other men with black clothes going up the hill, and a few minutes I saw fire.

CHAIRMAN : On Saturday and Sunday night anything happened to you?

WITNESS : No sir.

CHAIRMAN : What happened on Monday?

WITNESS : Monday morning?

CHAIRMAN : Yes about 6 to 7.

WITNESS : The fire started in the morning. Two of my girls went to school at Mackenzie and there the people started to beat. My wife was in hospital receiving treatment then. I saw fire and I sent my boy about 8.a.m. to buy chick feed. He was warned by another friend that people were beating in the streets.

CHAIRMAN: Can you say what you saw?

WITNESS : Yes, I saw two people and I don't know them or do I know the persons who were beaten. All I know is that the victims were Indians. They then went to Mr. Lalta Persaud's store and started to loot and burn the building. The women were crying and pointing down the hill.

CHAIRMAN: How many people did you see?

WITNESS : I saw about thirty people.

CHAIRMAN: Did you recognize any of them?

WITNESS : Yes. There was Bob, ~~Loyd~~, and Johnson, and they told me that I must not worry they would not burn my place. They then removed to Mr Lalta Paul's son-in-law and started to burn his house. My wife was crying and moving from place to place in the house. I then asked an African girl if she can keep my two daughters, and she refused to do so, because she was afraid that she too will be burnt and beaten if she helped an Indian.

CHAIRMAN : What happened then?

WITNESS : I asked a neighbour three houses from where I was living to keep my sixteen year old daughter, and she did so until next morning. About 7 in the morning the crowd came to my house but they did not find anyone. I hid my wife and six children in the bathroom, and I hid myself under some plaintain bushes and there I watched.

CHAIRMAN : What happened?

WITNESS : I saw about twenty people. They surrounded my house. One Mr Thomas said the lights are out and they are looting and burning. I hid myself and said nothing. They set fire to my house three times and upon the fourth time they got gasolene which I had hidden for my motor cycle.

CHAIRMAN : About how much gasolene, about how many pints?

WITNESS : About a gallon and a half.

CHAIRMAN: And you saw them use this to light your house afire.

WITNESS Yes.

CHAIRMAN : Who did you see when your house was burning?

WITNESS : I saw ~~Lloyd~~ Hope, Bob and Harris around my house.

CHAIRMAN : What happened then, you remained with your family?

WITNESS : Yes.

CHAIRMAN : Did you see any police about the area? Did you hear a gun shot?

WITNESS : Yes, but I did not come out or say anything.

CHAIRMAN : Did you see any British soldiers?

WITNESS : No.

CHAIRMAN : What happened next?

WITNESS : I asked Napoleon to help me with the fowls and I gave him some. I jumped on my push bike and went back to the station.

CHAIRMAN : About what time?

WITNESS : About 5.30 to 6 in the morning.

CHAIRMAN: You had police protection?

WITNESS : One volunteer and the one police constable Lashley took everything and put it into the jeep.

MR. SHEPHERD : You try to catch the first boat to Georgetown?

WITNESS : Yes.

MR. SHEPHERD : About how much do you say the value of your house is?

WITNESS : About \$10,000. The only thing I owed for it, is the \$59. on the machine.

MR SHEPHERD : When you were at home and you saw people being did you go to the police?

WITNESS : No I could not come out.

MR SHEPHERD : Did you have any police protection?

WITNESS : Yes.

MR SHEPHERD : You and your family went into the jeep.

WITNESS : Yes.

MR. SHEPHERD : How many?

WITNESS : About 6 or 7 of us.

MR SHEPHERD : Then you took the first boat to Georgetown.

WITNESS : Yes.

MR SHEPHERD : Any injured?

WITNESS : No.

MR. SHEPHERD : On Friday your place was burnt down. At no time did you or your wife received any hurt.

WITNESS : Not Friday, on Monday.

MR SHEPHERD : But at any time did you or your wife received any harm?

WITNESS : No.

MR. SHEPHERD: No other questions.

MR. J. CARTER. I do not have any questions to ask you, but I wish to refer to the number of things I have been hearing since this inquiry started. I want to ask you that the Press be asked to co-operate in not publishing the names of those persons who rendered assistance to

the victims. They may mention just persons rendering assistance and not even neighbours, as this will serve as a means of identification. I hope that there will not be a tragedy of this nature, but I think persons will not be too willing to give assistance in similar circumstances for fear of victimisation.

CHAIRMAN: It was worrying the commissioners since yesterday especially as photographers are concerned, and people giving their addresses, but we feel that the press will use their discretion in this matter, and we would ask them for the safety of these people, not to print their names and addresses. The secretary will make a request in the form of a letter to the press.

MR CARTER: Particularly to the persons who rendered assistance.

CHAIRMAN : Yes.

PROF. DRAYTON : You say you saw Mr. Jordan on Friday afternoon down by the riverside, and he was walking up and down?

WITNESS : And telling people what to do.

PROF DRAYTON: Telling whom?

WITNESS : Telling everybody.

PROF DRAYTON : How did you know he was telling everybody?

WITNESS : I stood up and listened as he was walking up and down and talking.

PROF DRAYTON: And where were you? You were passing.

WITNESS & Yes, and I stopped.

PROF DRAYTON: I am not clear Mr Naraine, and I must ask you to try and help to clear up this matter. What was Mr Jordan doing by the riverside, was he walking up and down?

WITNESS : He was walking and talking to the people.

PROF DRAYTON : How many were there?

WITNESS : About three, but he was not standing up one place, he was walking all the time.

PROF DRAYTON : What did he say to those people?

WITNESS: He said we have a short time, and this thing has got to be done before Monday, burn beat, and loot.

PROF DRAYTON : The second question Mr Naraine, concerns those people all dressed in black clothing.

WITNESS : That was night not daytime.

MR SHEPHERD : That is t e Saturday night?

WITNESS: Sunday night.

MR SHEPHERD: You said Saturday night in the course of your evidence was it Saturday night or Sunday night that you saw those people?

WITNESS : Saturday night.

CHAIRMAN : Answer the questions that are put to you, listen carefully to the questions and answer the questions.

PROF. DRAYTON : It was on Saturday night that you saw how many people dressed in black, you say three.

WITNESS : Three.

PROF DRAYTON : - You said three, so there were three people down by the river side to whom Mr. Jordan spoke and there were three people dressed in all black going up the hill.

WITNESS : Yes.

PROF. DRAYTON : What were they doing?

WITNESS : They were going up a hill dressed in all black. they were Africans but they might have been Indians too, they were all going up the hill.

PROF DRAYTON: Did they have anything in their hands?

WITNESS: I saw they had something like a bottle. It was night.

MRS. MOOTOO: Your wife was very sick and you went ~~alone from~~ ^{alone from} work so that you would go to the dispenser, but inspite of that you had time to follow behind Mr. Jordan, after he started to lecture.

You remember to this day exactly every word that he said.

WITNESS: But I said I would ~~have to go away.~~ ^{was on my way} to the dispenser.

MRS MOOTOO : But this was before you went to the dispenser?

WITNESS: Yes.

MRS. MOOTOO : When did your wife come back from hospital?

WITNESS : She came back on Sunday.

MRS MOOTOO : When did your two children go to school?

WITNESS : On Monday morning.

MRS MOOTOO : And you sent your boy to buy some chicken feed on Monday morning. How old is this boy?

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Chairman : You lived there up to Monday 25th May, 1964.

with yes.
CHAIRMAN: Now, on Saturday 23rd May around 4 to 5 p.m. where were you?

Could you remember?

WITNESS: I was on the road going home.

CHAIRMAN: The public road.

WITNESS: The one leading to the riverside, I was going from east to west. I had to pass the electricity cooperative. While passing Mr. Jordon, was in front of me.

CHAIRMAN: You said you knew Mr. Jordon for several Years?

WITNESS: Yes. Going to the office, there he was on the road. There was a few Africans in and out of the office, the office is very small. Mr. Jordon said, "What are you people here, you don't see that the ^{Indians} Indians are killing the Africans on the East Coast, and West Coast., and you are not doing anything to stop this nonsense, you all have to get up and get, and do something to stop it. Then I went home, and took up my telephone and told the Sergeant at the Wismar police station "like we are in for some trouble". and he said I must not be afraid, he is going to send somebody to keep watch. He sent a fellow by the name of Bob, he is a Volunteer Soldier.

CHAIRMAN: A volunteer soldier came to your premises.

WITNESS: Yes, about seven o'clock, and he said he will keep watch. *Badon, a rural constable.*
Another fellow by the name of ~~Selby~~, ~~he was Indian or African~~, both people came and assisted me.

CHAIRMAN: They kept watching the whole of the night?

WITNESS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN: Now what happened to you?

WITNESS: During Saturday night I saw ^a few fires around the hill top. That is at the back of my building.

CHAIRMAN: That is about how many miles.

WITNESS: It is about half to one mile.

CHAIRMAN: What about Sunday night?

WITNESS: Nothing Sir, but about two or three times some Africans went up ~~about~~ ^{around} the building, and when the Volunteer force came out they

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went away. I kept watching until 4'0'clock on Monday. I wake up about 9 o'clock and I saw fire. On the hill top I saw volunteer force, policemen and negroes. Moving from house to house. The fire started to spread, and people running about. Many people came to my house, they were all East Indians and I advise them to go to the police station. I took up a phone and rang the police but I had no answer.

CHAIRMAN: Just one more question Mr. Hakim, you said you rang the station. Is there a Switch Board operator who could put you on to the station.

WITNESS: No sir, no switch board operator. I could not get through to the police station by phone. I saw many people running from here to there ^{joined} trying to ring Mr. Langham, the security officer.

CHAIRMAN: About what O'clock.

WITNESS: It was about 10 o'clock.

CHAIRMAN: What happen next?

WITNESS: The secretary answer the phone, but I told him that I wanted to ^{Speak to} ~~see~~ Mr. Langham.

MR. SHEPHERD: What Mr. Longham said to you?

WITNESS: He said that he could not come now. On Monday about twenty to twenty five negroes went into my place some of them I knew. They called for rum and beer and I served them. I asked them for the money. But they told me, ^{what} that I wanted ^{with} the money, they will burn my ~~place~~ down.

~~Then a little later I saw Mr. Sealey and I give him \$900. and some jewels worth \$600 was given by my wife. My wife gave Jonsons \$2 to take my children across the river to Mr. Brown's house.~~

WITNESS: I saw Mr. ^{Badar} ~~Baddel~~ a rural constable.

MRS. MOOTOO: Was there any one else that you saw? *Chairman: Did you recognize anyone in the crowd.*

WITNESS: Yes.

MRS. MOOTOO: Who else did you see? *Chairman:*

WITNESS: I saw Mr. Massey and one Shirley Martin.

MRS. MOOTOO: about how much money did you have in your store. *Chairman:*

WITNESS: I had around \$920.00 (nine hundred and twenty dollars)

MRS. MOOTOO: What happened. *Chairman: in one packet*

/WITNESS:

I had \$15.00 or \$16.00 in my pocket.

Cheddi Jagan Research Centre

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and I went out of the back step & hid it
in the engine room, a little later I saw Mr. Sealy 20.11.64

WITNESS: I ran and went through Bissoon's yard and there as I came through the gate I saw two negroes and they threatened me. They told me that it is either money or life. I took out the ^{the} money half of it and gave the two men along with the bracelets that I had in my possession.

CHAIRMAN: Yourself and wife went to the Station.

WITNESS: Yes and there we met Mr. Hobbs and asked for police protection in order to go back and rescue some valuables.

CHAIRMAN: What happened?

WITNESS: He Mr. Hobbs told me that he was not concerned because the time has come for the negroes to fight back seeing that the Indians were taking advantage of the negroes on the West Coast.

CHAIRMAN: What happened then?

WITNESS: I met one Mr. Simon at the platform and told him the said story and he in turn told me the same thing that Mr. Hobbs said. My wife and I came downstairs and there we met Mr. Chalmers, in his jeep I again told my story to Mr. Chalmers. He then took my self and wife to the station. I took my wife and Chalmers who was promised half the money in the jeep and went back to the hotel, when we got there people were drinking and transporting goods. I knew some of them who were transporting goods.

CHAIRMAN: Transporting what?

WITNESS: Stocks of beer, we walked on the pavement and went in the yard.

CHAIRMAN: Which pavement?

WITNESS: My yard has a pavement.

CHAIRMAN: You saw people looting Edward. Bissoon's store.

WITNESS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN: What Mr. Chalmers did?

WITNESS: Mr. Chalmers took out his revolver and fired a shot in the air, and the people started to run.

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chalmers ^{fired a shot} and the people started to disperse.

WITNESS: Yes. ^{Chalmers} The people collected terylene shirts from Bissoon's store. ^{Some from the front & some from the back} I just collected my money and went back to the station.

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CHAIRMAN: You walked back to the station?

WITNESS: Yes, I walked back.

CHAIRMAN: And did Mr. Chalmers request anything.

WITNESS: Yes. I took out my pocket and showed him I hadn't no money here with me, I had given it to my wife to keep.

CHAIRMAN: About how many people were at the station?

WITNESS: About 800, the station was very crowded.

CHAIRMAN: What time did you go across to McKenzie?

WITNESS: About 6 to half past six.

CHAIRMAN: How long were you at Wismar?

WITNESS: Since 1948

CHAIRMAN: You are the owner of the Hotel De Luxe?

WITNESS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN: Do you have another place?

WITNESS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN: Where?

WITNESS: 38, Silver Town Wismar.

CHAIRMAN: The value of the building?

WITNESS: About one hundred thousand, including all the equipments in the house.

CHAIRMAN: Do you have any other properties?

WITNESS: Six other properties.

CHAIRMAN: Where is the other hotel?

WITNESS: 29, Silver City Wismar.

CHAIRMAN: Value of it?

WITNESS: About ten thousand, and another at 56 Silver Town. Valued at \$6,000 and one at Silvertown at \$10,000.

MR. SHEPHERD: Were all these buildings destroyed?

WITNESS: Yes Sir, I heard they were destroyed, I did not go back.

MR. SHEPHERD: Did this building carry insurance?

WITNESS: No sir.

MR. SHEPHERD: Since building, you had carried insurance on them?

WITNESS: I had the hotel insured for \$20,000.

/ . Shepherd.

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Chairman
MR. SHEPHERD: Did you any riot insurance?

WITNESS: No Sir.

Chairman
MR. SHEPHERD: How much would you say you have lost in property and everything?

WITNESS: About \$175,000

Chairman
MR. SHEPHERD: Are you indebted or so to any man?

WITNESS: No Sir.

Shepherd
MR. DRAYTON: I want to take you over some of your evidence, so I could understand it. In the first place after hearing what Mr. Jordon was saying, you telephoned Sergeant Thomas, and he said do not be afraid, and this was on Saturday night. A Volunteer was sent to keep watch at your house on Saturday night.

WITNESS: One volunteer and a Constable.

MR. SHEPHERD: He was an ordinary constable, and then the following day was Sunday, and somebody was sent that day to watch your place.

WITNESS: The very person.

MR. SHEPHERD: Was he also a Supernummary Constable?

WITNESS: No, the same person came the next day.

MR. SHEPHERD: Sunday night you had police protection, you watched your property. The police was dressed in Khaki?

WITNESS: He was a regular visitor to the place.

MR. SHEPHERD: You know him? When was it that you saw crowds moving from house to house and fires springing ^{up}, was that on Saturday or Monday? You saw a volunteer or a policeman? How many?

WITNESS: A volunteer or a policeman. A few.

MR. SHEPHERD: What were they doing? The volunteer and the policeman were moving in the crowd. Volunteers, policemen and negroes.

MR. SHEPHERD: How far away was the crowd.

WITNESS: A good way. I did not take measurements of this place, so how can I tell you how far away.

MR. SHEPHERD: About 50 rods?

WITNESS: There were some ~~20~~⁵⁰ rods, some 200 rods, some 300 rods.

CHAIRMAN: There is a great difference between ~~50~~⁵⁰ rods and 200 rods,

/Chairman

answer Mr. Shepherds' question.

WITNESS: I can't say.

MR. SHEPHERD: ^{name} ~~Was~~ anyone volunteer or policeman you saw moving with the crowd?

WITNESS: I do not know the name Sir.

MR. SHEPHERD: Did you at any time on the Saturday or Sunday, see a Volunteer or policeman beat anybody?

WITNESS: No the people told me so.

MR. SHEPHERD: Did you see any volunteer beat anyone, or any policeman beat any-body?

WITNESS: No, I only watched and ran.

MR. SHEPHERD: Did you see any volunteer or police set fire to a house?

WITNESS: No sir.

MR. SHEPHERD: By the time you spoke to Superintendent Hobbs on Monday, things were out of control, there was confusion, fires, people running to and fro.

WITNESS: I was telephoning and not getting an answer.

MR. SHEPHERD: I want to get at this point. Superintendent Hobbs said, we cannot do anything we are not protecting life and property That was not ~~true~~ ^{true}. He said we cannot protect Indian property.

WITNESS: He said life and property.

MR. SHEPHERD: Now here ^{this matter} I shall have to hold between you and Sergeant

^{Chalmer's} ~~these~~, and I shall have to be properly instructed, I'll ^{reserve} my examination until I am properly instructed.

MR. CARTER. Your hotel is'nt the one they call the "Ship"?

WITNESS: No, I do not know anything about that.

MR. CARTER: Now, your hotel was well patronized from the workers of McKenzie.

WITNESS: Yes sir.

MR. CARTER: Were they mostly African workers?

WITNESS: Yes. because the population consists of mainly Africans?

MR. CARTER: Was it exclusively African Workers?

WITNESS: Yes sir.

/Mr. Carter. ...

CARTER: You stated that this business was operated from 1954.

What business did you do before?

WITNESS: I did business on the road, then I had business in the market selling groceries, provisions and so on.

MR. CARTER: You told us that when these two men met you with this green heart and they told you "money or life" you had some pay slips in your pocket.

WITNESS: Yes, I had three pay slips from men who were workers in Demba. Was it the Monday, when these pay slips had been given to you.

WITNESS: The pay slips were given to me on Friday or Saturday.

MR. CARTER: Tell me what happened. The men came to you with their pay slips. Is that right?

WITNESS: No. When they came I told them, I haven't got money.

MR. CARTER: Now, what commission do you charge for changing this.

WITNESS: I get no commission, I don't know what you are talking about.

MR. CARTER: You take these pay slips to whom?

WITNESS: To the bank.

MR. CARTER: Do you take a commission out of this.

WITNESS: No I don't know anything about this.

MR. CARTER: You take a small commission from this and take them to the bank to collect the money.

WITNESS: No.

MRS. MOOTOO: You had knowledge before you had the money that there was a possibility, a good possibility of the hotel ^{being attacked} and they ^{they} threatened and said that they would burn down your place. Why did you choose to hide it rather than to keep it ^{on your} personally ~~on you~~?

WITNESS: Well I decided to hide the money in the engine room in fact I felt like hiding it in the room.

MRS. MOOTOO: How long have you known Mr. Hobbs?

WITNESS: Well since he was in the district.

MRS. MOOTOO: How many years?

/WITNESS:

well, I did not make a check.

Dr. Dwyer
MRS. MOOTOO: You know Mr. Hobbs very well, Mr. Hobbs made this kind of remark to you before.

WITNESS: N o.

Dr. Dwyer
MRS. MOOTOO: What was your relationship as a big businessman in the area? You must have had a close relationship. You knew all the policemen in the area? Did you get along well with them.

WITNESS. Yes.

Dr. Dwyer
MRS. MOOTOO: None of the policemen before this occasion said what Mr. Hobbs told you and none of them made this kind of remark before, being interested in protecting your property?

(A) WITNESS: No. Mr. Hobbs did say we are not protecting Indian life and property, because they heard for a long time of the killing of negroes on the East and West Coast.

Dr. Dwyer
MRS. MOOTOO: You are certain of this.

WITNESS: Yes. I am certain of this.

REV. MCDONALD: You said you saw ^{Several} about ten people started running into your hotel telling you that they will beat you. Why did they come to your hotel?

WITNESS: Well, I cannot say why.

REV. MC DONALD: They came to you for protection, why did they come to your hotel just to report to you.

WITNESS: I cannot say.

Rev. Mc Donald
MRS. MOOTOO: You told them that you could not do anything and you advised them to go to the police station.

Witness Yes
Mr. MC DONALD: Later on, 25 or 30 black men and women came in and they called for drinks, business is business so you served them you saw everything was alright.

Witness
Mr. Khan: Yes sir.

MRS. MOOTOO: You said on Monday you had \$600 in one of your pocket. ^{and} the other. This is a lot of money to be in One's pocket. Do you carry so much money with you.

WITNESS: Yes sir, sometimes more.

/ Mrs. MOOTOO. ..

\$900

MRS. MOOTOO: Why did you carry so much of money ^{with} with you.

WITNESS: Well I have to keep my money to give my customers changes.

MRS. MOOTOO: Did you know that on Sunday there would be any disturbances.

WITNESS: Yes.

MRS. MOOTOO: Well why did you carry so much money with you, why you didn't put it in the bank.

WITNESS: I could not go to the bank on Sunday.

MRS. MOOTOO: Over the week-ends you served as banker in the bank.

You charged a small fee.

WITNESS: I ^{don't} know about that.

CHAIRMAN: You live at present at lot 29 First St. Alexander Village.

WITNESS: Yes sir.

CHAIRMAN: You used to live at Wisamr Hill on the Demerara River.

WITNESS: You got a stall in the market of Wismar, what do you sell:

^{Widens} Ground provisions.

CHAIRMAN: You had an accident on 12th May.

WITNESS: Yes sir, on 12th of May I was beaten by a gang of men about 12.30 p.m.

CHAIRMAN: Where.

WITNESS: While I was going home at Wismar Hill.

CHAIRMAN: About how many people in that crowd.

WITNESS: About six to seven men.

CHAIRMAN: You know any one of them.

WITNESS: I knew one of them he is ^{white} Bob Kid.

CHAIRMAN: What happened next. You got hit where.

WITNESS: On my shoulder, my left hand, my back, my foot, kicks and cuffs about my head and back.

CHAIRMAN: As a result of that what happened to you.

WITNESS: I shouted for help I was accompanied by my brother to the hospital, that was on the 13th of May. We went to the Georietown

cont'd

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beat you like that. You didn't interfere with any one.

WITNESS: One day I had a little talk with one Mr. Jones by name.

MRS. MOOTOO: What happened.

WITNESS: My land is next to his, and one day I light fire some bushes to burn and the smoke caught his plaintain stalks.

MRS. MOOTOO: Is that all.

WITNESS: Yes that is all.

MRS. MOOTOO: Was this man Jones in the crowd.

WITNESS: No he was not there.

MRS. MOOTOO: Was any of his friends in the crowd.

WITNESS: No I did not see any of his friends. I do not know if he had any friend there, I do not them.

MRS. MOOTOO: Is that true.

WITNESS: That is true.

MRS. MOOTOO: That is all. Thank you.

Cheddi Jagan Research Centre